

Message Text

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ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /009 W

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P 031320Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2172

C O N F I D E N T I A L CONAKRY 1539

FOR AF/W FOR BISHOP

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: ASIG

SUBJ: INSPECTION OF AF/W

REF: STATE 189581

A. COMMENTS BY NUMBER ON RECOMMENDATIONS TO
CONAKRY:

1. HAVE VERY MUCH IN MIND AND WILL SUBMIT IN APRIL
AS PER TIMING SUGGESTED BY USIA.

2. AF/W ACTION TAKEN, I BELIEVE, AND WE WILL KEEP
THE PRESSURE ON CCC AND EXIM.

3. WILL DO OUR BEST BUT RESOURCES ARE LIMITED.

4. IN PREPARATION

5. ACTION COMPLETED.

6. WILL COMPLY TO EXTENT POSSIBLE-EG, ON CURRENT
SALE OF OLD USIS FURNITURE-BUT LOCAL CONDITIONS WILL
NOT ALWAYS PERMIT BID SALES.

7. HAS BEEN DRAFTED AND WILL BE SUBMITTED.

8. THE GARAGE AND THE AMERICAN SCHOOL BUILDING ARE
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ON THE SAME LEASE WITH UNIT UTILITY SERVICES. THE

POSSIBILITY OF THE GUINEAN GOVERNMENT ATTEMPTING TO TAKE OVER THE SCHOOL BUILDING IF THE ISSUE IS RAISED IS SO GREAT I AM NOT PREPARED TO RISK IT. WILL NEGOTIATE WITH CBG TO OBTAIN MORE SATISFACTORY RENT PAYMENT ARRANGEMENTS.

9. EMBASSY IS PREPARING REPORT OF FISCAL IRRREGULARITY (3FAM634) AT REQUEST OF A/BF/FS.

10. DONE

11. PRESENT LEVEL OF \$50,000 DOLLARS IS REALISTIC AND NECESSARY DUE TO DISTORTED EXCHANGE RATE AND CHECK CASHING PROBLEMS WITH GUINEAN GOVERNMENT BANK.

12. REVISED E AND E PLAN WILL BE POUCHED TO RSO ABIDJAN 5 AUGUST.

B. A FEW SELECTIVE COMMENTS ON GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. MEMO (5) PERSONNEL ITEM PR4 RE FIRST TOUR OFFICERS. THIS POST HAS BENEFITED FROM TWO SUPERB FIRST TOUR FSO'S. ASSIGNMENT OF OFFICERS OF THIS QUALITY TO WEST AFRICA ON THEIR FIRST TOUR PRESENTS NO PROBLEM WHATSOEVER. NO DOUBT SELECTIVITY IS IMPORTANT. ITEM PR9(3) AND (4) AND (5) RE LOCAL EMPLOYEES: AGREE WHOLEHEARTEDLY. IMPROVEMENT OF LOCAL EMPLOYEE QUALITY AND OUR PERSONNEL SYSTEM FOR LOCAL EMPLOYEES SHOULD HAVE HIGH PRIORITY.

2. MEMO 10 REGIONAL B&F OPERATIONS: AGREE WITH RECOMMENDATIONS, ALTHOUGH DOUBT THAT SUCH FREQUENT VISITS BY RBFO REPS TO POSTS ARE NECESSARY. WE HAVE HAD GREAT DIFFICULTIES WITH RBFO AND WOULD WELCOME MORE AUTONOMY. HOWEVER, WOULD WISH NO CHANGE IN B&F POLICY WHICH WOULD REQUIRE ADDITIONAL STAFFING AT THIS POST.

3. MEMO 1 COUNTRY DIRECTORATE: YOUR PROBLEM TO HANDLE THIS SWEEPING RECOMMENDATION FOR REORGANIZATION. CONAKRY HAS BEEN WELL SERVED BY AF/W AND WOULD WISH ANY CONFIDENTIAL

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CHANGE, EXCEPT FOR MAXIMUM ATTENTION TO KEEPING US INFORMED. THE EXPANDED AF NEWSLETTER WITH LIBERAL ENCLOSURES IS A BIG HELP IN THIS REGARD. I DO FEEL, ALTHOUGH IT IS NOT MY BUSINESS, THAT HIGHER ORGANIZATIONAL PRIORITY SHOULD BE GIVEN TO NIGERIA.

4. POLICY: BELIEVE INSPECTORS DID GENERALLY GOOD JOB ON POLICY ISSUES, ALTHOUGH AS THE POST WITH GREATEST

SOVIET/CHINESE/CUBAN PRESENCE I RESENT THE RECOMMENDATION THAT WE SHOULD MONITOR COMMUNIST ACTIVITIES MORE CLOSELY. WE WORK DAMN HARD AT THIS AND COULD NOT EASILY OBTAIN MORE INFORMATION. HARROP

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